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Message Text

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DRAFTED BY AF/I:CVKEYES;PCS
APPROVED BY AF/I:WHLEWIS
---------- 034344
R 300007Z OCT 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY KIGALI
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 267540

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XA, US

SUBJECT: CURRENT FOREIGN RELATIONS: ISSUE NO. 43,
OCTOBER 27, 1976

THE FOLLOWING IS AF'S CONTRIBUTION TO ISSUE NO. 43
OF CURRENT FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR POST INFORMATION.
FULL TEXT OF CFR BEING POUCHED PER REGULAR SCHEDULES.

2. AF - INDEPENDENCE OF THE TRANSKEI (LIMITED OFFICIAL
USE)

ON OCTOBER 2 THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA DECLARED THE
TRANSKEI, A SMALL TERRITORY LOCATED BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC
OF LESOTHO AND THE INDIAN OCEAN, TO BE AN INDEPENDENT
STATE. ASIDE FROM SOUTH AFRICA, NO COUNTRY SENT OFFICIAL

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REPRESENTATIVES TO THE INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIES AND TO OUR KNOWLEDGE NONE PLANS TO EXTEND RECOGNITION IN THE NEAR FUTURE. BOTH THE OAU AND THE UNGA HAVE STRONGLY REJECTED ANY FORM OF RECOGNITION.

THE PRIMARY REASON FOR THIS WIDESPREAD HOSTILITY LIES IN THE TRANSKEI'S RELATIONSHIP TO SOUTH AFRICA'S SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES ACCORDING TO WHICH:

-- ALL AFRICANS (71 OF THE POPULATION) WILL BECOME CITIZENS OF ONE OF NINE, EVENTUALLY TO BE INDEPENDENT, HOMELANDS (COMPRISING 13 OF THE LAND AREA OF PRESENT DAY SOUTH AFRICA). THE TERRITORY OF MOST OF THESE HOMELANDS IS FRAGMENTED AND NONE HAS ANY PROSPECT OF ECONOMIC VIABILITY.

-- THE REMAINDER OF SOUTH AFRICA WILL BE CONTROLLED BY THE WHITES (WITH THE STATUS OF THE COLORED AND ASIAN POPULATION GROUPS YET TO BE DETERMINED). AFRICANS WILL LOSE ALL CLAIM TO SHARE IN THE BULK OF SOUTH AFRICA'S RESOURCES, WHICH ARE LOCATED IN THE WHITE AREA.

THE TRANSKEI IS THE FIRST OF THESE HOMELANDS TO BECOME INDEPENDENT. ALL OF THE OTHERS, WITH ONE EXCEPTION, HAVE REJECTED THIS CHOICE.

US POSITION:

WE HAVE INDICATED THAT WE DO NOT INTEND TO RECOGNIZE THE TRANSKEI AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE. WITH REGARD TO THE HOMELANDS POLICY, IT IS OUR VIEW THAT THE HOMELANDS, AS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED, CANNOT BE REGARDED AS A JUST DIVISION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S TERRITORY. IN EXPRESSING THIS JUDGMENT WE HAVE BEEN CAREFUL TO EMPHASIZE THAT IT IS NOT FOR US TO PRESCRIBE THE SOLUTION THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA ADOPT TO RESOLVE THEIR COMPLEX PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, WE DO BELIEVE THAT ANY SUCH SOLUTION, TO BE VIABLE AS WELL AS JUST, MUST TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE INTERESTS OF ALL SOUTH AFRICANS.
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KISSINGER

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Type: TE
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